APR 0 2 2004 Attorney Docket No. 03747/LH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): S. NAGATSUKA

Serial No. : 10/735,027

Filed: December 12, 2003

For : IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, METHOD,

PROGRAM AND RECORDING MEDIUM

Art Unit : 2882

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Submitted herewith is a copy of the document identified on the attached form PTO/SB/08A. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached form PTO/SB/08A to confirm that the document listed therein has been considered and made of record.

A commercially available English Language Abstract is provided for the document submitted herewith.

Japanese 04-341246 is identified at page 2, lines 12-13 of the present specification, and is discussed in the introductory portion of the present specification.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Holtz Reg. No. 22,9

Dated: March 30, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date noted below.

N. Salveles

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Dated: <u>March 30, 2004</u>

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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DATE MAILED: March 30, 2004

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Signature

*ENGLISH LANGUAGE ABSTRACT ATTACHED

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.